

MULTIMEDIA



UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

# MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

## FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 1, 2018/2019

**DEN5018 – ENGLISH**  
(All Groups)

20 OCTOBER 2018  
2.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.  
(2 Hours)

---

### INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This question paper consists of **SIX** pages only.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in **Sections A, B and C**.
3. Please write all your answers in the Answer Booklet provided.

**SECTION A: READING AND VOCABULARY [20 MARKS]**

**Instructions:** *Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.*

**How Normal are Cruise Mishaps?**

- 1 A cruise, a journey on a sailing ship, represents not only a holiday, but 1  
also a very specific kind of holiday. Holidaymakers book it when they do not want  
to have to decide, plan, worry, change money, or get tetanus shots. What is the real  
motivation to book a cruise holiday? Cruises offer great value for your holiday fund  
because the fares include nearly everything you will need for a fantastic trip: food, 5  
accommodation, daytime and evening entertainment, and transportation between  
travel destinations. However, in recent years, several high profile disasters or  
mishaps with cruise lines have occurred.
- 2 One example is the incident that occurred in February 2013 in a ship 10  
owned by Carnival Corporation, the world's largest cruise company. Its name is  
Triumph, yet it had been anything but that. A fire in the engine room shut down  
the Triumph's power, sewage and air-conditioning systems, leaving 4,200  
passengers adrift for days in the Gulf of Mexico with little to eat and raw sewage  
seeping through the ship's walls and carpets. Even in the home stretch, when the  
crippled ship was being tugged to port, a towline snapped, prolonging the rescue. 15  
Furthermore, the sea was really rough and choppy at the time of rescue. Back on  
the ship deck, passengers described awful scenes of overflowing toilets,  
overflowing sewage in showers, scarce food, sickly people and a cluttered tent city  
on what was supposed to be a tanning deck.
- 3 Savvy travellers have to ask: Is this normal? How many fires, power 20  
failures and other unwelcome incidents are there in the life of the average cruise  
ship? Is what happened to Triumph normal? Obtaining answers is not easy. "Before  
1992, no one was systemically collecting data of collisions, fires, evacuations,  
groundings, or sinkings," said Jim Walker, a maritime lawyer in Miami who has  
attended more than half a dozen congressional hearings about cruise ship crime and 25  
passenger safety.
- 4 The reason for the lack of data is that cruise lines, while based in the  
United States, typically incorporate and register their ships overseas. Industry  
experts say the only place cruise lines are obligated to report anything is to the state  
under whose laws the ship operates. The whole industry, which is essentially 30  
outsourced abroad, operates outside the bounds of United States enforcement, and  
this has led to a state of lawlessness of the travel industry.
- 5 However, for the industry overall, there remains no comprehensive public  
database of events at sea like fires, power failures and evacuations. Neither the  
International Maritime Organisation nor the United States Coast Guard tracks 35  
everything. Interestingly, there is one unlikely man who does, and he is a Canadian  
professor of sociology, Ross A. Klein. He was a long time cruise enthusiast,  
spending more than 300 days at sea between 1992 and 2002.

**Continued...**

6 Today, Mr. Klein is an authority on the cruise industry, having testified at  
hearings before the House of Representatives and the Senate about onboard crimes, 40  
disappearances and industry oversights. His website, CruiseJunkie.com, is a record  
of fires, sunken ships, collisions and other events at sea over the last few decades  
that have been obtained from news reports and sources like crew members and  
passengers. There is one limit: Mr. Klein receives fewer reports about incidents in  
Asia, Africa and South America; therefore, most of the information is about cruises 45  
in North America and Europe. He is unlikely to learn about problems that are not  
reported by English speakers or English language news organisations.

7 Mr. Klein's data reveal that loss of power is common. However, drifting  
at sea typically lasts no more than a few hours. When it comes to passenger  
evacuations, they are infrequent, and when they do happen, *they* are usually done 50  
safely. For instance, in 1999, a Sun Cruise ship caught fire and sank off the coast of  
Malaysia, but more than 1,000 people on board safely made it onto lifeboats and  
rafts.

8 Mr. Klein's data have also shown that it is more likely that a cruise ship  
will run aground than sink. A ship that runs aground will usually get stuck on the 55  
bed of the sea in shallow water. "Today, ships don't sink with everybody dying,"  
Mr. Klein said. "The chances of loss of life are very minuscule." For instance, there  
was no report of damage or injury in the recent incident involving the Alaskan  
Dream ship that ran aground in Olga Strait, about 12 miles northeast of Sitka,  
Alaska. 60

9 Another observation made by Mr. Klein is that fires on cruise ships are  
also common. From 2006 onwards, the number of fires doubled to about seven or  
eight a year. That increase, Mr. Klein said, is the result of a combination of better  
reporting especially through social media and the rapid growth of the cruise  
industry. Just three months after the Triumph incident, a fire broke out aboard a 65  
Royal Caribbean ship which did enough damage that the rest of the cruise was  
cancelled, and more than 2,200 passengers were flown from the Bahamas back to  
Baltimore where the trip began.

10 Hence, are the events that unfolded on Triumph normal? Mr. Klein  
answered, "Yes and no. We see maybe two to four of these kinds of incidents a 70  
year, and they range in severity, with Triumph certainly being one extreme." He  
believes that in most cases, when things go wrong, there is no threat to physical  
harm. With effective evacuation procedures and effective support systems for crisis  
management, more and more passengers could escape any tragedy unharmed.

11 "Just endure it as best you can," Mr. Klein advised. "If something goes 75  
wrong, your attitude is what's going to get you through it."

*Adapted from Rosenbloom, S. (2013). How normal are cruise mishaps? Retrieved from  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/12/travel/cruise-mishaps-how-normal-are-they.html>*

Continued...

**Question 1: True or False (5 marks)**

**Instructions:** *For each statement, write (T) if the statement is true and (F) if the statement is false.*

- a. A cruise offers almost everything one needs for holiday including fantastic food, all day long entertainment and safety.
- b. A fire started from an air-conditioning unit in Triumph cruise ship in February 2013.
- c. Jim Walker, a maritime lawyer in Miami, managed to record a limited set of data on cruise incidents that occurred before 1992.
- d. There is no complete set of data on ship mishaps and tragedies from International Maritime Organisation or the United States Coast Guard.
- e. Mr. Klein received only a small number of reports about cruise incidents in Asia, Africa and South America.

**Question 2: Comprehension Questions (15 marks)**

**Instructions:** *Answer the following questions.*

- a. What caused the delay of the rescue mission after Triumph lost power? (2 marks)
- b. State the ordeals or sufferings the passengers had to go through after Triumph lost its power. (2 marks)
- c. What is the main idea of paragraph 4? (1 mark)
- d. Why is Mr. Klein considered a reliable authority to testify in various hearings related to cruise industry? (1 mark)
- e. Explain Mr. Klein's contribution in data collection of cruise mishaps. (2 marks)
- f. What does "they" in line 50 refer to? (1 mark)
- g. Based on Mr. Klein's data, what are the common cruise ship problems? (3 marks)
- h. Provide two reasons for the increasing number of fires on cruise ships after 2006. (2 marks)
- i. Explain why most cruise ship accidents are non-life threatening. (1 mark)

**Continued...**

**SECTION B: GRAMMAR [20 MARKS]****Question 1: Subject-Verb Agreement (10 marks)**

**Instructions:** *The following extract contains 10 errors in subject-verb agreement. Identify the errors and correct them as shown in the example.*

**Example:**

<u>No.</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Error</u>	<u>Correction</u>
0	3	freezes	freeze

### Welcome to the Coldest Village on Earth

If you thought it was cold where you are at the moment, then a visit to the Russian village of Oymyakon might just change your mind. It is where eyelashes **freezes**, frostbite is a constant danger, and cars are usually kept running even when not being used. With the average temperature for January standing at -50 degrees Celsius, it is no wonder the village, situated nearby two other small, cold villages, are the coldest permanently inhabited settlement in the world. 1 5

Known as the 'Pole of Cold', the coldest ever temperature recorded in Oymyakon was -71.2 degrees Celsius. This is the lowest recorded temperature for any permanently inhabited location on Earth. The village, which is home to around 500 people, were in a stopover for reindeer herders in the 1920s. 10

A lot of homes in Oymyakon still burns coal and wood for heat and enjoy few modern conveniences. Nothing grow there, so people eat reindeer meat and horse meat. A single shop provides the town's bare necessities, and the locals work as reindeer breeders, hunters and ice fishermen. Doctors say the reason the locals do not suffer from malnutrition is that their animals' milk contain a lot of micronutrients. 15

Unsurprisingly, locals are hardened to the weather, and unlike in other countries where a flurry of snow brings things grinding to a halt, Oymyakon's solitary school, including some government offices, only shut if temperatures fall below -52 degrees Celsius. The village is located around 750 metres above sea level, and the length of a day vary from 3 hours in December to 21 hours in the summer. 20  
Despite its terrible winters, high temperatures of about 30 degrees Celsius in June, July and August is not uncommon.

Daily problems that come with living in Oymyakon includes pen ink freezing, glasses freezing to people's faces and batteries losing power. Locals are said to leave their cars running all day for fear of not being able to restart them. Another problem 25  
caused by the frozen temperatures are burying dead bodies, which can take anything up to three days just to dig a hole.

*Adapted from O'Hare, S. (2013). Welcome to the coldest village on Earth. Retrieved from <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2266374/Oymyakon-coldest-village-earth.html>*

Continued...

**Question 2: Tenses (10 marks)**

**Instructions:** For questions 1-10, read the text and choose the correct answer.

**Example:** (0)     B    

**Daredevils Die in Stunts**

Now that more and more people (0) are getting (get) into parkour, there have been a few instances on the media where a dark side of parkour is shown. Authorities (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (raise) concerns about the risk in jumping across high buildings and off of bridges as part of the parkour craze and have argued that practitioners are needlessly risking their lives. The craze, where fans perform acrobatics in urban settings like balconies and high buildings, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (become) a huge hit after appearing in action films like *James Bond* and *The Bourne*.

The urban pastime (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (gain) media exposure in 2004 through its use in the French films, *District B13*. Since then, movie directors (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (feature) parkour in action films, including the *Jason Bourne* and *James Bond* franchises. This has helped to raise the profile of the sport and increase participation.

There have been several deaths across the world which have been related to the sport. In June last year, a 24-year-old woman (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (plunge) 17 storeys to her death during her first parkour lesson. St Petersburg police said the woman (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) up first to the roof of the building with her older sister before four local men, who were apparently experienced in the craze, joined the women a few minutes later. The accident happened when she (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (try out) the sport which requires participants to jump, climb and roll across buildings.

As expected, many practitioners of parkour (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (insist) the non-competitive sport is not dangerous as long as it is practised properly and safety procedures are put in place. They claim that it (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (involve) seeing one's environment in a new way as one imagines the potential for navigating it by different movements around, across, through, over and under its features.

Currently, efforts are being made in different parts of the world to create safe places for fans to take part in parkour. However, some fans believe that any future law enforcement against this activity (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (detract) from the freedom of the sport.

*Adapted from Adams, S. (2013). Daredevils die in stunts. Retrieved from <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2307399/Daredevil-fan-street-stunt-craze-parkour-dies-hurls-120ft-bridge--asks-pals-film-him.html>*

- |    |            |                  |                        |                       |
|----|------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 0. | A. get     | B. are getting   | C. were getting        | D. will get           |
| 1. | A. raised  | B. will raise    | C. had raised          | D. have raised        |
| 2. | A. became  | B. was becoming  | C. has become          | D. will become        |
| 3. | A. gains   | B. gained        | C. is gaining          | D. was gaining        |
| 4. | A. feature | B. are featuring | C. have been featuring | D. had been featuring |

**Continued...**

- |     |              |                   |                 |                   |
|-----|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 5.  | A. plunged   | B. plunges        | C. has plunged  | D. is plunging    |
| 6.  | A. goes      | B. was going      | C. had gone     | D. has gone       |
| 7.  | A. tries out | B. had tried out  | C. will try out | D. was trying out |
| 8.  | A. insist    | B. were insisting | C. had insisted | D. will insist    |
| 9.  | A. involves  | B. involved       | C. has involved | D. is involving   |
| 10. | A. detracts  | B. detracted      | C. will detract | D. has detracted  |

### SECTION C: ESSAY WRITING [20 MARKS]

**Instructions:** Choose **ONE** of the topics below and write a five-paragraph essay of 300 to 350 words.

1. Students are often required to work in groups for their assignments and projects. However, it can be challenging to work in groups, and sometimes a group can even fail to work together. What causes a group to fail?
2. Many people think that lying is harmless and is necessary during certain circumstances. However, lying can become a bad habit. What are some negative effects of lying on us?

**End of Paper**